Renovation of tourist places

1608. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Goverment has any plan to renovate various tourist places including the places of Historical Monuments, so as to attract more number of tourists from within and aboard;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) The conservation, preservation, structural repairs and environmental development and provision of visitors' facilities at protected monuments is undertaken by the Archaeological Survey of India in accordance with the archaeological norms subject to availability of resources. However, The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India also extends financial assistance to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations under the Scheme of 'Product/ Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits' for development of tourism related infrastructure including restoration and renovation of historical monuments.

During the Xth Five Year Plan, the Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned financial assistance of Rs. 2012.02 crore for 1160 projects to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for development and promotion of tourism in the States/Union Territories including renovation of historical monuments.

(c) Does not arise.

Tourist places in Bihar

†1609. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the places of historical, cultural and tourist importance in the Mithilanchal of Bihar;

(b) what are the names/out of the above mentioned places where development and beautification work is being undertaken; and

(c) what action is being taken by Government to look into the possibilities of tourism in Mithilanchal?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism, Government of Bihar has identified some places of historical, cultural and tourist importance in Mithilanchal which are Ahilya Asthan, Kamtaul, Kalidas Ashram, Ucchath, Kusheshwar Asthan in Darbhanga District; Chitra Gram, Ranti Girija Asthan, Madhubani in Madhubani District; Chandi Asthan, Tara Asthan and Matsyagandha Lake in Saharasa District; Singheshwar Asthan and Bisu Raut Mandir in Madhepura District and Vidyapati Nagar in District Samastipur.

Department of Tourism, Government of Bihar has already undertaken development and beautification of Ahilya Asthan and Kamtaul.

(c) Development and promotion of tourism is undertaken primarily by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.